

AB6943

Torrance, California
April 1, 1947

**MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR
MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE**

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in an Adjourned Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California on Tuesday, April 1, 1947 at 8:00 p.m.

Due to the absence of Mayor Sherfey, Councilman Powell moved that Councilman Tolson be appointed Mayor Pro-tem. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro tem Tolson called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Jackson, Powell, and Tolson. Absent: Councilmen: Gilbert and Sherfey.

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag.

Mayor Pro tem Tolson announced that the regular order of business would be dispensed with.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication addressed to Mr. James O'Toole was read from John P. Willey, Colonel, CAF (RA), Project Coordinator of ARMY WEEK, with reference to the observance of ARMY WEEK throughout the nation to be held April 6, 1947 to April 12, 1947.

Mayor Pro tem Tolson moved that this matter be referred to Mayor Sherfey for whatever action he deems necessary. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, requesting extended traffic control on Crenshaw Boulevard.

Mayor Pro tem Tolson moved that this matter be referred to the Chief of Police for recommendation to the Council. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company with reference to the purchase and installation of crossing flasher signals at Crenshaw Boulevard and Dominguez Street. Filed for future reference.

A communication was read from Frank L. Richardson, Commander of the American Legion, advising that the Civic Auditorium will no longer be used for a meeting place by his organization; and thanking the Council for its past courtesies. Matter of record.

A communication was read from Mr. Leo Wagner, President of the Torrance and Lomita Boy's Club, submitting a letter from Mr. Lowell R. Spring of the Torrance Hobby Shop with reference to obtaining a permit to sell "Safe and Sane Fireworks" for the coming Fourth of July celebration. Mr. Spring stated in his letter that the Boy's Club would receive a substantial donation from him if the permit is obtained.

Councilman Powell moved that these communications be referred to the Chief of the Fire Department for recommendation to the Council, and that the applicant be instructed to meet with the Fire Chief and find out just what may or may not be allowed in the way of fireworks in the City of Torrance. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Taylor and Taylor, Consulting Engineers for Municipal Water District No. 1 in Welteria, submitting their recommendation for the awarding of Contract A and Contract B for the construction of said District to J. E. Young Pipe Line, Contractors, as the lowest responsible bidder fully complying with the terms and conditions of the specifications. Their bid was in the amount of \$25,622.50 for both units; and Taylor and Taylor's estimate for the work was \$32,900.00.

Councilman Powell moved that the recommendation of Taylor and Taylor be concurred in by the Council; that the remaining bids be rejected and the unsuccessful bidders so notified; and that the contract be referred to the City Attorney for proper administration. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert and Sherfey.

A communication was read from Mr. I. J. Hallanger, Secretary of Veterans Emergency Rentals, Inc., 1514 Cravens Avenue, submitting a resolution adopted by his organization with reference to the use of barracks and other buildings at the Lomita Air Strip for veterans' emergency housing under a contract between the Veterans Emergency Rentals, Inc., and the City of Torrance. The resolution stated that the City shall not be obligated for any expense incurred thereof.

A communication addressed to the City Attorney was read from Mr. Stanley Abel, Area Management Supervisor of the National Housing Agency, F.P.H.A., Broadway Arcade Building, Room 1220, 542 South Broadway,

Los Angeles, submitting eight (8) copies of the form of Agreement to be entered into by the Veterans Emergency Rentals, Inc., and the City of Torrance; and eight (8) copies of a form of Resolution authorizing the execution of said Agreement.

City Attorney Otto B. Willett stated that he has not had an opportunity to go over these forms, and since Mr. Abel has expressed the wish to be present to explain certain statements within the Agreement, he would recommend that the matter be referred to the Council as a whole and held over until the next regular meeting.

Councilman Powell moved that this matter be held over until the next regular meeting on April 8, 1947, and that Mr. Abel be invited to attend. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the M. C. Nottingham Company of Temple City, 123 N. Cloverly Avenue, Temple City, proposing to install for 140 houses at Seaside Ranchos their J-14 Hygi-Sept precast concrete septic tank, 750 gallons capacity, F.H.A. approved; and requesting the approval of the Council in the matter.

City Engineer Glenn M. Jain informed the Council that there were thirty (30) of these tanks already installed before his office knew anything about them but that they are apparently an accepted structure throughout many cities in Southern California. He stated that the City plumbing ordinance does not have a provision allowing for prefabricated tanks, but sets up standards for minimum thickness of the walls, etc.

City Attorney Willett stated that he did not know if an amendment to the plumbing ordinance would be necessary; however, he agreed with the Council that approval in the form of a motion would be sufficient on this item.

Councilman Powell moved that the request of M. C. Nottingham Company to install for 140 houses at Seaside Ranchos their J-14 Hygi-Sept precast concrete septic tank be granted upon the recommendation of the City Engineer. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, City Engineer, summarizing the recommendations as set forth in the report from the office of Harold A. Barnett, Consulting Engineer for the proposed South Torrance Sewer District.

The report of Harold A. Barnett's recommendations was read, in which it was stated that the Council may modify the boundaries of the proposed sewer project in South Torrance, but not more than 10% of the total estimated cost; recommending that the present plans for the District be abandoned; and that new proceedings be instituted for that portion of the District indicating approval for sewers, by further petitions.

Councilman Powell moved that the recommendations of Mr. Barnett be concurred in by the Council. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert and Sherfey.

A communication was read from Mr. Harold A. Barnett, Consulting Engineer for the proposed South Torrance Sewer Project, advising that certain steps may be taken to salvage a portion or all of the incidental expense in future proceedings for a revised sewer district in portions of South Torrance. Matter of record.

A communication, addressed to Councilman Jackson, was read from Glenn M. Jain, City Engineer, requesting authorization to order immediate delivery of sewer cleaning equipment for which \$900.00, plus tax, was appropriated by the Council last February 11th, but was held up for reconsideration.

Requested, also, was authorization to purchase and install a gasoline storage tank at the City Yard for use by the Street Department, at an estimated cost of \$125.00 which could be paid for by applying the one cent per gallon, now paid the service station for pumping only, on the purchase of the tank.

Councilman Jackson moved that the requests of the City Engineer be granted by the Council. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which

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was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert and Sherfey.

Councilman Powell moved that the Council authorize the employment of Gale Whitacre as a Patrolman with the Police Department on probation as of April 1, 1947 at a salary of \$210.00 per month, in order to replace G. M. Calder who is on leave. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert and Sherfey.

City Attorney Willett reported that, with reference to the Council's memorandum authorizing him to draw up an amendment to Section 6 of Ordinance No. 366, (Taxicab Ordinance) in conformance with those of other cities of similar size, he is in doubt as to what is meant by "in conformance". He advised that, in the letter from the taxicab operators requesting reduced insurance requirements, it was suggested that the coverage be in the amount of \$10,000/\$10,000 and \$5,000 instead of the present \$10,000/\$20,000 and \$5,000.

After some discussion, the Council agreed that the amounts of \$10,000/\$10,000 and \$5,000 be established in the amendment to Ordinance No. 366 to be drawn up by the City Attorney.

City Attorney Willett advised the Council, with reference to Captain J. J. Benner's suspension from the Fire Department for a period of forty-five days, that the ordinance covering Civil Service matters was passed by the people of Torrance, not by the Council. He stated that the ordinance provides that the Board be allowed to dismiss from the services of the City anyone found guilty before the Civil Service Trial Board, or inflict such other punishment as it might deem adequate. Therefore, he was of the opinion that the Trial Board was within its legal rights in suspending Captain Benner from the Fire Department for such period of time. He recommended that the request of C. T. Rippy, Attorney, for wages withheld Captain Benner during his suspension, be denied.

Mr. Willett also expressed the opinion that the City Council ought not to take it upon itself to declare an ordinance, which was adopted by the people, unconstitutional.

Councilman Powell moved that the request of C. T. Rippy, Attorney, for wages withheld Captain Benner during his forty-five day suspension from the Fire Department be denied. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

City Attorney Willett advised the Council that the franchise of Standard Gas Company, which he has drawn up to its completion with the exception of the rates to be inserted upon advisement by the Council, will probably be a basis on which to draw up all future ordinances of franchise nature. He stated that past ordinances, those of Shell Oil Company and The Texas Company for example, make no provision for payments to the City of Torrance on pipelines used solely for the transportation of the Company's product. However, the new ordinances are to be revised to include orders for payment on any product transported by pipelines running within the City, he stated.

City Attorney Willett recommended that the checks submitted by the Shell Oil Company and The Texas Company in payment on their respective franchises be accepted by the Council and ordered cashed by the City Treasurer, due to the fact that only a costly law-suit would bring about larger payments.

Councilman Powell moved that the City Council authorize the City Treasurer to cash the checks received from the Texas Company and the Shell Oil Company in payment under their respective franchises. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.


Mayor Pro tem Tolson moved that all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by

the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert and Sherfey.

At 8:32 p.m., upon motion by Councilman Powell, seconded by Councilman Jackson, the meeting adjourned.


CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

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